

WASH POST

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Red Says Cities Are A-Targets

Reuters

MOSCOW, Sept. 2—Soviet nuclear missiles are aimed at populated Western administrative and political centers and would be launched if the West started a war, Soviet Marshal Nikolai Krylov warned today.

Writing in Nedelya, the Sunday supplement to the government newspaper Izvestia, Krylov, the Soviet missile chief, specified that the populated administrative centers were considered targets equally as valid as military installations and industrial objects.

The rockets, he said, would be launched during "the very first minutes of the war."

Although Krylov stressed that any Soviet strike would be in retaliation for Western aggression, he did not specify that the West would have to make a nuclear attack before the Soviet missiles were launched.

According to some Western observers, Krylov's statement also meant that Russia was not heeding reported Western attempts to reach a tacit agreement that only military targets should be struck in a nuclear war.

In another development, the Soviet Union announced a two-month series of rocket tests into a range in the North Pacific Ocean beginning Sunday.

The rockets will land in two 80-mile circles centered about 650 and 800 nautical miles northwest of Midway Island.

Tass news agency asked foreign governments to warn shipping and aircraft away from the test areas between noon and midnight local time each day from Sept. 3 until Oct. 30.

Tass gave no reason for the current tests. A month-long series of similar tests, in which Soviet rockets landed about 1000 miles southwest of Hawaii, ended June 29.

The purpose of the previous series was to accumulate experimental data to be used in space exploration, Tass said.